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ABSTRACT

This annual report provides information on the CAL Community School, a small K-12 school that serves the communities of Alexander, Coulter, and Latimer, Iowa. The mission of the school is to provide a positive educational environment, maintain high academic standards, and promote the value of life-long learning among students. In addition, the school encourages students' character development through valuing respect, integrity, positive relationships, personal responsibility, citizenship, and vision. Goals identified by the school's community include that students will learn to live self-directed accountable lives, will communicate effectively, will be able to process and apply knowledge and academic skills, will effectively apply personal life skills, will work and think independently and collaboratively, and will behave as members of a global society. During 1995-96, CAL Community School designed and built a state-of-the-art communication network classroom allowing students, staff, and community members to interact with learning sources across the state; designed and installed a local area network that provides schoolwide Internet access; implemented staff development programs; introduced a model to assist students and staff in solving academic and social problems; expanded assessment for evaluating student achievement; updated the district policy manual; conducted a retreat that identified connections between CAL's learning objectives and character development; and honored employees for their service. During 1995-96, students were recognized for their academic achievement, attendance, completion of college courses, team sports and band, and other state competitions. The report also includes information on special programs, extracurricular programs, achievement test results, follow-up on 1995 graduates, enrollment and attendance, staff, and school finances. (LP)

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Katheryn Spencer

TO THE EDUCATIONAL RESOURCES INFORMATION CENTER (ERIC)

CAL COMMUNITY SCHOOL

An invitation to patrons to participate

1995-1996 REPORT TO THE COMMUNITY

CAL Community School: "A Small School With Big Ideas"

ED 405 155

RC 020941

Mission Statements

Elementary:

The mission of CAL Elementary School is to provide a nurturing environment in which all children will acquire the necessary knowledge, skills, and values that foster life long learning and productive citizenship.

Junior High:

It is the mission of CAL Junior High to provide all students with experiences that: address unique student needs; hold high expectations; relate content to immediate concerns; develop effective communication; and provide opportunities to behave responsibly while instilling pride and a desire for continuous learning.

High School

It is the mission of CAL High School to educate all students to think critically, assume responsibility, possess self-confidence, and become productive members of our changing global society.

Commitment to

Achievement of

Life Long Learning

Supporting the School's Role

in the Development of Character in Young People

Written by the Participating Clergy of the CAL Community School District Serving the Communities of Alexander, Coulter, and Latimer, Iowa

As pastors of the Christian faith, we believe that character development is an important component in education. This position paper is a expression of our desire to help the CAL Community School Define its role in the character development of their students.

Character development begins at home from the time a child is born. We believe that families are primarily responsible for helping children develop positive values. We believe that the family needs and deserves the support of the school, the church, and the community in developing these values. We believe that 'good' character is both taught and caught (modeled) by everyone who has an influence on children.

As pastors, we seek effective ways to reinforce those values held in common by the family, school, church, and community. Through our study and discussions together, we affirm that there are basic human values that we all embrace regardless of our cultural or religious backgrounds. As pastors, we want to give our support to the development of those characteristics in our children and the community at large.

Out of concern for our community and its children has grown a list of what we believe are positive values which are basic to all humankind.

Respect

Respect for self
Respect for others
Respect for family and heritage
Respect for authority
Respect for differing world views

Integrity

Honesty
Responsibility
Trustworthiness
Honor
Work ethic
Humbleness

Relationships

Compassionate
Tolerant
Just/fair
Polite
Discerning
Loyal
Encouraging

Personal Responsibilities

Health/hygiene
Sexual abstinence
Freedom from use of illegal drugs including alcohol and nicotine
Responsibilities within the family

Citizenship

Law abiding
Involved
Participates in the democratic process
Charitable

Vision

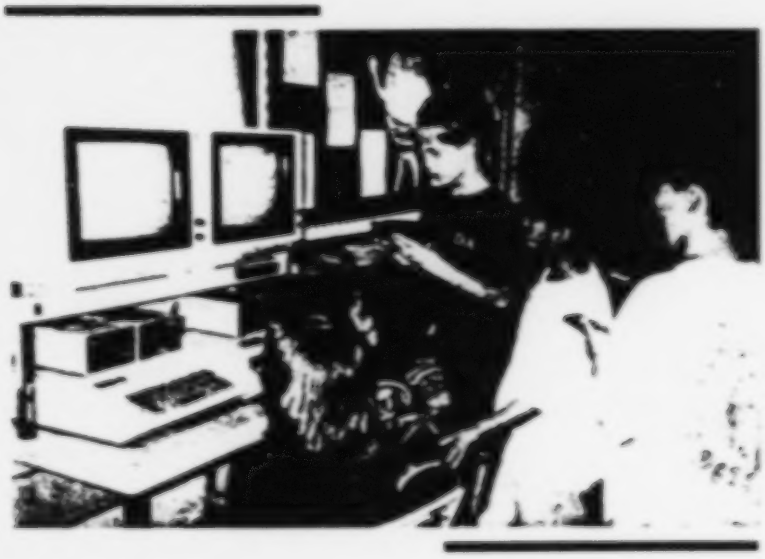
Faith
Hope
Goal setting
Perseverance
Learning from the past to influence the future

Essential Learnings identified by the CAL community

The CAL Community believes that it is essential that CAL Community School students:

Live self-directed accountable lives

- Demonstrate a strong work ethic
- Identify and apply appropriate problem-solving strategies
- Express a positive self-concept that fosters inner motivation
- Determine goals, set priorities, and evaluate progress
- Define life and career options based on strengths and interests



Work and think independently and collaboratively

- Manage behavior and time to complete the process
- Brainstorm options and utilize available resources
- Consider other options and agree to disagree respectfully
- Take pride in personal abilities
- Actively participate in and support the group
- Demonstrate respect and appreciation for individual and group differences

Communicate effectively

- View cultural and life experiences with an open mind
- Listen attentively
- Speak effectively
- Read with competency for information and pleasure
- Write clearly

Process and apply knowledge and academic skills

- Demonstrate competency in the basics including technology, communications and the arts
- Apply complex thinking skills
- Demonstrate knowledge of historical and contemporary contributions of diverse populations

Effectively apply personal life skills

- Demonstrate practical life skills
- Make choices that promote healthy minds and healthy bodies
- Practice healthy personal, professional, and other societal relationships
- Participate in activities that enhance the quality of life

Behave as members of a global society

- Show understanding, tolerance, and compassion for others and their beliefs
- Take responsibility for personal actions and their consequences
- Behave in a manner that demonstrates respect toward the environment
- Organize time and other resources in order to accomplish a productive goal
- Are informed and involved citizens

Achievements

During the 1995-1996 school year CAL Community School:

- Designed, built, and opened a state of the art Iowa Communication Network (ICN) classroom allowing students, staff, and community members to interact with learning sources across the state.
- Designed and installed a local area network that provides interactive communication and data transmission throughout the school facility and schoolwide Internet access over the Iowa Communication Network.
- Utilized a study group format of staff development to move the district forward in the areas of technology, assessment, and problem solving.
- Introduced a problem solving model to be used in grades K-12 to assist students and staff in solving academic and social problems.

- Expanded the types of assessment used to evaluate student achievement and report student progress to parents.
- Completed a comprehensive review, update and revision of the district policy manual.
- Continued to build a sense of community among students, parents, staff, board members, community clergy, and other patrons by conducting a CAL retreat that identified the connections between CAL's essential learnings and the CAL's pastors' position paper on character development in young people.
- Recognized Katheryn Spencer, who was featured in the November issue of the professional publication of the National Association of Elementary Principals in an article entitled, "The Principal's Day."
- Honored four employees: Eunice Cordes, secondary English and drop out prevention teacher/coordinator; Maxine Freese, superintendent and school board secretary; Shirley Knudsen, second grade teacher; and Homer Mileham, secondary principal, who retired at the close of the 1995-96 school year with a combined total of 137 years of service in public education.

Student Achievements

- Thirty-four percent of the students in grades 7 through 12 received Gold Yearly Honor Roll certificates for achieving grade point averages of 3.5-4.0.

- Fourteen percent of the students in grades 7 through 12 received Silver Yearly honor Roll certificates for achieving grade point averages of 3.0-3.49.

- Sherry Fahrmann, Austin Elling, Sara Latham, Karen Ohl, Andy Hensel, Jon Hicks, and Shani Lohrbach were named to the 1996 North Star Conference All Academic Team for maintaining a 3.5 or better GPA and scoring above the 90th percentile on a nationally recognized standardized achievement test.

- 3.5 percent of the students in the elementary grades and 8.0 percent of the students in the secondary grades had perfect attendance for the school year..

- 36.4 percent of the students in the elementary received Excellent Attendance certificates.

- Sixty-three semester hours of college credits were earned by eleven students in 1995-96 under the Post Secondary Enrollment Options Act.

- Dows/CAL girl's summer 1995 summer 1995 softball team won the regular season North Star Conference Championship and placed second in the North Star Conference Tournament. Jen Hicks was named All-Conference First Team, 2nd team All-District pitcher and special mention All-State. Michelle Carslon was named All-Conference Second Team and All-State honorable mention outfield. Matt Schaefer was named All-Conference Second Team in summer 1995 baseball. Paul Fahrmann and Nick Plagge received All-Conference Honorable Mention.

- Jen Hicks was named First Team All-Conference in volleyball. Tiffany Parks was named Second Team. Michelle Carlson and Jill Latham received Honorable Mention.

- Brandon Fitz was named to the Second Team All-State Football Squad by the Iowa Daily Press Association by helping the Dows/CAL football team finish second in district play. Brandon Fitz and Andy Hensel were named to the All-District Team and Matt Schaefer received Honorable Mention.

- CAL boy's and girl's basketball teams, coaches and spectators won the 1995-96 North Star Conference Sportsmanship Awards. Jen Hicks and Kris Pralle were named to the First Team All-Conference basketball teams, Brandon Fitz was named to the Second Team and Jill Latham, Sarah Latham, Austin Elling and Nick Plagge received Honorable Mention.

- CAL girl's golf team won the North Star Conference Championship for the seventh consecutive year, placed second at District and third at Regional. Tiffany Parks represented CAL as an individual medalist at the 1996 Girl's State Golf Meet.

Student Achievements

- CAL junior high girls track team won the North Star Conference Championship. Pam Betz went undefeated in the long jump, 100 meter and 400 meter dash events. The high school boys track team took second place in the North Star Conference Track Meet.

- James Hicks and Shani Lohrbach represented CAL in the All-State Band. Shani Lohebach was selected as the Outstanding Soloist in Center #3 at the State Music Solos and Ensembles Contest. Twelve students received Superior I ratings at the Spring Music Contest.

- Brandon Schafer represented CAL as an Outstanding Performer in the area of Acting at the Annual All-State Speech Festival. One large group events and nine individuals took I Ratings at State Speech Contests.

- Ten jurors and seniors participated in the Washington D.C. Close Up Foundation and two more participated in the Washington D.C. National Youth Leadership Conference.

- Jeff Fahrmann and David Pingel took first place at the State AG Sales Contest and participated in the National FFA Ag Sales Contest in Kansas City.

- CAL elementary students were first in the State of Iowa for raising funds for "Hoops for Hearts" and Janae Campbell was the highest fund raiser statewide.

- CAL hosted three foreign exchange students: Tom Vedder for Aachen, Germany; Daniel Gardos from Budapest, Hungary; and, Maria Carolina Doria from Sao Paulo, Brazil.

Special Programs to enrich academic learning

PROGRAM	GRADE LEVELS
Prekindergarten Classes	Ages 3-5 years
Title I Reading and Math	Grades 1-6
Reading Recovery	Grade1
Innovative Early Childhood at Risk Program	Grades K-3
Elementary Computer Program	Grades K-6
Franklin County Conservation Education	Grades PreK-6
Elementary Talented and Gifted Resource	Grades K-6
Secondary Talented and Gifted Resource	Grades 7-12
Secondary Student Assistance (Drop out prevention)	Grades 7-12
English as a Second Language	Grades PreK-12
Special Education Delivery System (Inclusion)	Grades PreK-12
Title II Resources	Grades PreK-12
State Vocational Education Reimbursable Programs	Grades 9-12
AEA 2 Carl Perkins and Drug Free Schools Consortium	Grades PreK-12
Phase III Excellence in Education Staff Development	Grades PreK-12
Post Secondary Education Options	Grades 9-12
Junior Achievement Applied Economics	Grade 12
Close Up Foundation Program (Washington DC Trip)	Grades 11-12
Spanish Trip to Spain	Grades 11-12
CAL Keys	Grades 7-8
Student and Faculty Wellness Programs	Grades PreK-12

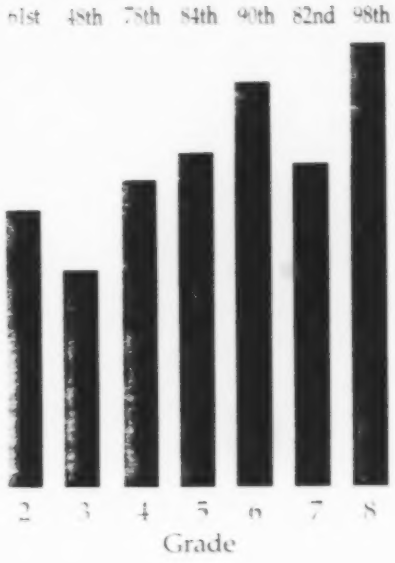
SECONDARY EXTRA CURRICULAR PROGRAMS

Concert Band	Individual Speech	Boys Track (CAL/Dows)
Jazz Band	Mock Trial	Cross Country (Hampton-Dumont)
Marching Band	Yearbook	Wrestling (Hampton-Dumont)
Mixed Chorus	Newspaper	Boys Golf
Girls Chorus	Student Council	Girls Golf
Boys Chorus	National Honor Society	Summer Girls Softball (Dows/CAL)
Swing Choir	Future Farmers of America	Summer Boys Baseball (CAL/Dows)
Fall Musical	Girls Volleyball	Summer Basketball Camp
School Plays	Boys Football (Dow/CAL)	Summer Volleyball Camp
Hot Dog Theatre	Girls Basketball	Summer Cheerleading Camp
Large Group Speech	Boys Basketball	Football Cheerleading
	Girls Track (Dows/CAL)	Basketball Cheerleading

Test Scores

Iowa Tests of Basic Skills

Composite Scores • Spring, 1996
National Percentile Rank



Iowa Tests of Educational Development

Composite Scores • Fall, 1995
National Percentile Rank

CAL Attendance

Grades K-6	96.02%
Grades 7-8	96.50%
Grades 9-12	95.69%
TOTAL GRADE K-12	95.74%

Drop out data

1995-96 Drop out rate: 0.0%

Mark Eckhoff, Kelle Kewe, and Brian Foss, members of the class of 2001 were seventh graders at CAL Community in 1995-96.

Follow Up On the Class of 1995

(One year after graduation)

State of Iowa 4-year College, Private	1	5.5%
State of Iowa 4- year College, Public	5	28.0%
State of Iowa Community College or Junior College	8	44.5%
Out of State Business, Trade Tech School	1	5.5%
In State Service Occupation Employment	1	5.5%
In State Structural Work Employment	1	5.5%
Out of State Machine Trades Employment	1	5.5%
TOTAL GRADUATES-CLASS OF 1995	18	100.0%

Enrollment & Attendance Information

Certified Enrollment (September 15, 1995)

Resident Students K-12 (Includes 14 Open Enrollees Out)	331.0
Full Time Equivalent (FTE) Shared Time	6.7
Open Enrollees in from Other Schools	7.0
TOTAL PUBLIC SCHOOL ENROLLMENT	**344.7**
Prekindergarten Student Enrollment	35.0
Resident Students at St. Paul's School	40.0

Student Profile

White	92.18%
Hispanic	7.54%
American Indian	.28%

Enrollment Projections-1996-97 through 1999-2001

	96-97	97-98	98-99	99-00	00-01
Total K-6 Elementary	170	171	168	166	168
Total 7-8 Junior High	55	51	48	51	46
Total 9-12 Senior High	98	100	114	119	126
TOTAL K-12	323	323	330	336	340
Open Enrollees Out	23	21	20	19	15
Resident Students	346	344	350	355	355
(FTE) Shared Time	6	6	6	6	6
TOTAL ENROLLEES	**352**	**350**	**356**	**361**	**361**

Staff Profile 1995-96

Professional Staff

Administrators	3	2.50 Full Time Equivalent
Teachers/Curriculum	33	28.20 Full Time Equivalent

Supporting Services Staff

Office/Clerical	4	3.5 Full Time Equivalent
Library Aides	2	1.10 Full Time Equivalent
Instructional Aides & Associates	9	7.80 Full Time Equivalent
Custodians	3	2.30 Full Time Equivalent
Nurse	1	.75 Full Time Equivalent
Food Service	4	3.00 Full Time Equivalent
Transportation	5	2.25 Full Time Equivalent
TOTAL PERSONNEL	64	51.40 Full Time Equivalent

TOTAL PERSONNEL, AEA, & PURCHASED SERVICES COSTS = $1,686,597 (90.94% of Budget)

Staff & Financial Profile

Area Served

The CAL Community School District includes 117 square miles serving the communities of Coulter, Alexander, and Latimer and surrounding countryside.

Financial Profile

1995-1996 Operating Fund

- Property Taxes • $917,287 (45.8%)
- Income Surtaxes • $55,275 (2.8%)
- Other Local Non Tax Revenues • $117,180 (5.9%)
- State Aid Sources • $875,292 (43.7%)
- Federal Aid Sources • $35,644 (1.8%)

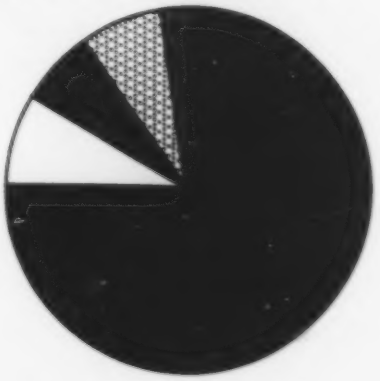
TOTAL SOURCES OF REVENUE • $2,000,678 (100.0%)

Sources of Revenue

- Instruction & Student Services • $1,399,709 (75.5%)
- Executive & Building Administration • $150,556 (8.1%)
- Operation & Maintenance • $122,707 (6.6%)
- Transportation • $135,553 (7.3%)
- Business Admin. & Bd. of Education Services • $46,180 (2.5%)

TOTAL EXPENDITURES • $1,854,705 (100.0%)

Expenditures



To learn more about the information in this annual report, contact:

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1995-1996

Sue DeBour, President & Director
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Roy Plagge, Director

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Marlys Pralle, Treasurer

It is the policy of CAL Community Schools to include all people regardless of gender, race, national origin, religion, age, marital status or disability.